

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE

board between two gangs of roughs from Baltimore, and the sailors were called upon to quell it. I did not reach the scene of the disturbances until it was just

of my youthful acquaintances, then grown into a manly and accomplished business, and every phrase was garnished with an oath. I said to him: "Phil, what makes you swear so?" "I don't know," replied he, "unless it is a habit."

Then I said to him: "It is a habit unbecoming a gentleman, and you should break your oath. I will tell you how to tell you something I never told you for any one else before. I was going to tell you something I never told any of boys, and as I lagged behind you came along and said to me: 'What would you mother say if she knew you were with me?' and I said: 'I don't know.' and went on; but pretty soon I began to think of what you said and broke my oath. I don't know what you told me to remember what I am saying, and break yourself of this habit of swearing."

I do not know what effect my lecture had on him. I never saw him again. I did not swear. A few years subsequently I dropped a tear as his body was being

Capt. A. was in the volunteer army during the civil war and stationed at the G street wharf, in the Commissary Department. He was a great sweener, and used to swear at his subordinates ad libitum, as he did before the war at his employees. His friends said he couldn't help it. But I noticed he did not swear at his superiors. One day the captain of a barge lying at the wharf went into Capt. A.'s office, and he swore at him. The bargeman said he was not used to that sort of thing and wouldn't stand for it. The captain, on the other Capt. A. gave him two minutes to get out. The bargeman said he could do it any time.

minute, and went. An hour or two after-
ward the captain had some business at
another barge beyond the one belonging
to the man who had offered out of his
office. The bargeman met him as he
stepped on his boat and said: "Capt-
ain—, you gave me two minutes to get
out of your office. Now, I'll give you
three minutes to get out of this business."
The bargeman meant business,
and turned and went ashore. He had
lost his last match.
The most eloquent sermon I ever heard
of, and the only one I ever heard on the
subject of profanity, was by a French
Dominican priest. "I say unto you
swear not at all: neither by heaven, for
it is God's throne; nor by the earth, for
it is His footstool."

Ganabbling.

Ganabbling, was by a French

That is to be hated next but to be so hated
We seem too odd, familiar with its face.
We first endure, then pity, then embrace.
Gambling is prohibited by law, yet it
endures. The very legislators who vote
for its prohibition do not hesitate to par-
take of a friendly game of poker pri-
vately. But the poor negro boys who play
craps feel the law's penalties. A man
has a right to gamble with his own
money, but he is a fool to do it.
The first race I ever saw was at the
Darby course at Philadelphia, where I
was taken by a Washington Methodist
clergyman to a race between Florida
Temple and Princess, a new gold en-
dorsed jockey who managed to beat an

A former District Commissioner used to fight cocks on Sunday while holding office. Another former Commissioner would have poker parties at his house.

On one occasion one of the party was in the kitchen, and my informant got up and told the host that he was being home. He was urged to stay by the host, but refused, and being still urged by the host for his reasons for quitting, said he could not stay and take the money of the house. He then said that he thought he would be robbing him. The host usually came out head of the game.

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With some the habit of betting is ineradicable. This was the case of a former landlord of mine, familiarly known as Uncle Tommy. Uncle Tommy had lost a fortune betting on Gen. Scott for the Presidency, but that did not restrain his betting proclivity. Uncle Tommy was

loyalty was enhanced by the expectation of benefits to come in the shape of remuneration for a farm across the river. It had been taken for the site of a farm in the summer of 1890. "Uncle Tommy was saying that I should have a farm in ninety days," said Tommond in thirty days. Said he was surprised to find, after a week, that it was not of it, and offered to bet a new hat on it. "Uncle Tommy, I'll take that bet," I said, and he took it. He was to win the hat and won his hat, which he settled for in the quarterly settlement. The next summer Uncle Tommy was going to take a new hat in ninety days. I was surprised and wished to bet a new hat on it. If he remembered that I won a hat of him the year before, and he remembered it, he said to him: "Uncle Tommy, you are

a good deal older man than I, and if you won't take offense I will give you some advice about betting." He said he would not take offense and desired to know what the advice was.

"Yes, I will," said he, "I'll bet a new hat on it."

"Uncle Tommy, I'll take that bet," and won his hat. He never troubled me more with it.

The man who loses his money in a square deal and squeals has no public opinion.

One of the worst forms of gambling is in bridge and euchre parties, now so popular with men and women. It is sap- phing the foundation of society. Let the pulpit cry aloud.

The chief of all vices is legislation. The world is governed too much. Even in families children are governed too much. The fear of punishment leads them to flee to avoid it. The most severe punishment I ever received was, when I was a child, for an unintentional disobedience, my mother tied me to the table leg. That was nearly seventy years ago, but I never forgot it.

My father once told me recently that his father was very severe with him, and often punished him without causing any good effect. So his father put him on honor and he became obedient. Before that he had no love for his father, but now he loves him.

There used to be a saying in New England that the minister's son and the deacon's daughter are the worst children in the village.

In legislating to cure a supposed or real evil care should be taken that greater should not be imposed. For illustration: Some years ago the California legislature put a premium upon coyote scalps. The result was that jack rabbits increased so greatly that it was proposed to take off the bounty on coyotes and

on | put it on jack rabbits.